

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 8, 2003

**JOIN THE CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS ON THE  
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

Dear Colleague:

The Founding Fathers of our nation considered an independent judiciary essential to ensuring fairness and equal justice for all citizens of the United States. Through fair and impartial judgments, the courts work to interpret and apply the laws passed by the legislative branch.

As Members of the House with a strong interest in improving the relationship between the legislative and judicial branches, we ask you to join us in forming a congressional caucus dedicated to this goal.

The bipartisan **Congressional Caucus on the Judicial Branch** has been organized to forge a closer working relationship with the judicial branch. The caucus will be dedicated to working with the judicial branch on issues that come before Congress that directly impact the Judiciary, including addressing the need for additional judgeships, responding to judicial vacancies, working cooperatively on any sentencing guideline reforms, assisting with judicial salary issues, and securing funding for additional courthouses and other priority projects.

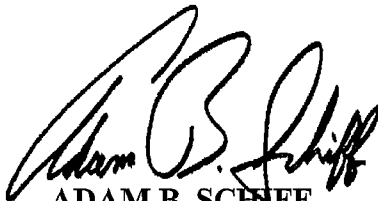
The following are examples of activities that will involve the **Congressional Caucus on the Judicial Branch**:


- Staff and member briefings and forums on significant issues related to the judicial branch
- Meetings with Supreme Court Justices, state court judges, and other members of the Judiciary
- Visits to the Judicial Conference and various state judicial associations
- Working closely with the committees of jurisdiction in the House on related hearings and legislation

You can demonstrate your support for our efforts to promote a healthy relationship between the two branches by joining the Congressional Caucus on the Judicial Branch. To join, please contact Phil Tahtakran of Rep. Schiff's office at 5-4176 or Melissa Guido in Rep. Biggert's office at 5-3515.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

  
**ADAM B. SCHIFF**  
Member of Congress

  
**JUDY BIGGERT**  
Member of Congress